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## BOOK REVIEWS

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*The Church School.* By WALTER S. ATHEARN. Boston: The Pilgrim Press, 1914. Pp. 320. \$1.00 net.

In the last twenty years great progress has been made in religious education. The leaders of the church have realized that the Sunday school was lagging far behind the advancement of educational thought and practice. School men have been called in to help in the reorganization of the educational work of the church. Among these is Professor Athearn, who holds the chair of religious education in Drake University. He has served as chairman of a commission of the Religious Education Association, which has studied the problem of the correlation of religious educational agencies in the local church. There is much waste and inefficiency as a result of the want of such correlation. This book is the outgrowth of the studies of the commission, and its title indicates that the church school is a much larger institution than the Sunday school. The book deals with the methods by which the necessary reorganization may be effected. It contains complete references to all the best literature on the subject and full directions for securing all available religious educational material. It is a valuable guidebook for all students of the Sunday-school problem, and will inevitably be a great factor in effecting needed reforms.

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*Commercial Education in Germany.* By FREDERIC ERNEST FARRINGTON, PH.D. New York: Macmillan, 1914. Pp. ix+258.

The significance of the nineteenth century for Germany may be found in the development of the national spirit and consciousness, and the response in the reorganization of the schools to serve the civic ideal. For the latter half of that century the remarkable thing is the transformation of Germany from an agricultural community to a great industrial and commercial nation. The response to this social transformation has hardly yet fully embodied itself in the schools of Germany. Great progress had, however, been made in that direction up to the moment of the outbreak of the present war. For the reorganization of education to meet the industrial situation the recent reports of Mr. Edwin G. Cooley, educational commissioner of the Commercial Club of Chicago, with the accompanying bibliographical references is probably the best easily available material. Professor Farrington's book is the latest word upon the situation in regard to commercial education in Germany. Those who are familiar with his book on the *Secondary Schools of France* will not be